

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. An RFID reader adapted to communicate with RFID tags having a memory containing at least one designated field for storage of data, said RFID reader comprising:

a radio module;

a processor connected to said radio module, said radio module being responsive to commands provided by said processor to perform transmit and receive operations with at least one RFID tag; and

a memory coupled to said processor and having program instructions stored therein, said processor being operable to execute said program instructions, said program instructions including:

detecting data loaded in said at least one designated field of a memory of said at least one RFID tag; and

communicating information to external systems connected to said RFID reader regarding said at least one RFID tag responsive to said detected data.

2. The RFID reader of Claim 1, wherein said data includes an address of a particular destination system among said external systems, and said communicating instruction further comprises communicating information regarding said at least one RFID tag to said destination system.

3. The RFID reader of Claim 1, wherein said data includes a protocol used by said at least one RFID tag, and said communicating instruction further comprises communicating information regarding said at least one RFID tag formatted in accordance with said protocol.

4. The RFID reader of Claim 1, wherein said program instructions further comprise periodically transmitting an interrogating field to communicate with said RFID tags.

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5. A computer network comprising:
a server having a plurality of application programs operating thereon;
at least one client computer connected to said server; and
an RFID reader connected to said server and being adapted to
communicate with RFID tags having a memory containing at least one designated field
for storage of data, said RFID reader providing a message to said server regarding one
of said RFID tags directed to one of said plurality of application programs selected in
accordance with data stored in said at least one designated field of said one of said
RFID tags.
6. The computer network of Claim 5, wherein said RFID reader further
comprises a radio module and a processor connected to said radio module, said radio
module being responsive to commands provided by said processor to perform transmit
and receive operations with at least one RFID tag.
7. The computer network of Claim 6, wherein said RFID reader further
comprises a memory coupled to said processor and having program instructions stored
therein, said processor being operable to execute said program instructions, said
program instructions including:
detecting data loaded in said at least one designated field of a memory of
said at least one RFID tag; and
communicating information to external systems connected to said RFID
reader regarding said at least one RFID tag responsive to said detected data.
8. The computer network of Claim 7, wherein said data includes an address
of a particular destination computer system connected to said network, and said
communicating instruction further comprises communicating information regarding said
at least one RFID tag to said destination computer system.

9. The computer network of Claim 7, wherein said data includes a protocol used by said at least one RFID tag, and said communicating instruction further comprises communicating information regarding said at least one RFID tag formatted in accordance with said protocol.

10. The computer network of Claim 7, wherein said program instructions further comprise periodically transmitting an interrogating field to communicate with said RFID tags.

11. The computer network of Claim 5, wherein at least one of said plurality of application programs comprises an e-mail program, said e-mail program sending an e-mail message to a destination computer identified by said data.

12. The computer network of Claim 11, wherein said e-mail message identifies at least one of time and date of communication by said RFID reader with said RFID tag.

13. The computer network of Claim 5, wherein at least one of said plurality of application programs comprises a website hosting program, said Website hosting program posting information on a website regarding said RFID tag.

14. The computer network of Claim 13, wherein said information regarding said RFID tag is only accessible from said website by a computer system identified by said data.

15. A method for reading an RFID tag, comprising:
interrogating said RFID tag;
receiving information stored in memory of said RFID tag including identifying data loaded in at least one designated memory field of said RFID tag; and
processing said information from said RFID tag in accordance with said identifying data.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said identifying data defines an address of a destination system, said method further comprising communicating said stored information to said destination system.

5 17. The method of Claim 15, wherein said identifying data defines a protocol used by said RFID tag, said method further comprising communicating said stored information in a format corresponding with said protocol.

18. The method of Claim 15, wherein said identifying data defines a software application used for processing said stored information, said method further comprising communicating said stored information to said software application.

10 19. The method of Claim 15, wherein said identifying data further comprises an IP Address of a TCP/IP protocol.

20. The method of Claim 15, wherein said identifying data further comprises a Port Number of a TCP/IP protocol.

15 21. An RFID transponder comprising a memory space adapted to store a plurality of data values therein, the memory space further comprising predetermined data fields for storing at least one of a destination address identifier corresponding to identifying an end destination for the stored data values and a protocol identifier corresponding to a protocol defining a data format of said RFID transponder.

20 22. The RFID transponder of Claim 21, wherein said destination address identifier further comprises an IP Address of a TCP/IP protocol.

23. The RFID transponder of Claim 21, wherein said protocol identifier further comprises a Port Number of a TCP/IP protocol.

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